

### **Kanuti Refuge Vision Statement (draft)**

Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge will be managed to preserve its natural biodiversity, biological processes, and wild character throughout time. The role of Kanuti Refuge in supporting wildlife populations important to Alaska, the United States, and the world will be the focal point of research and management efforts. Studies will focus on the physical and biological components of the northern circumboreal region, their ecological relationships, and their response to human activity. Stewardship of Kanuti Refuge will involve partnerships and federal and state government agencies, the public, and local communities that rely upon refuge resources for their subsistence needs.

### **Refuge Goals (draft)**

Refuge goals identify and direct management priorities, provide rationale for decisions, and offer a link between management actions, refuge purposes, Service policy, and the Service and National Wildlife Refuge System mission statements.

Goal 1: Conserve the refuge's diversity of wildlife, fish, and habitats, while fulfilling international treaty obligations, by allowing natural processes to shape the environment

Goal 2: Improve baseline understanding of water resources on the refuge in order to maintain the water quality and quantity to conserve fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity

Goal 3: Continue to provide opportunities for wildlife-dependent recreation while emphasizing the current use patterns; short- term, dispersed uses that require minimal facility development or habitat alteration

Goal 4: Provide for interpretive and environmental education programs that increase understanding of the National Wildlife Refuge System, boreal forest ecosystems, and natural processes; develop a sense of stewardship for wildlife, cultural resources, and the environment

Goal 5: Participate in cooperative projects, including research that fosters a better understanding of boreal forest ecosystems and ecological processes; partners may include other agencies, organizations, communities, and other Service divisions and universities

Goal 6: Provide opportunities for local residents to continue their subsistence use of refuge resources consistent with current Federal policy on subsistence priorities and refuge purposes

Goal 7: Provide for and maintain minimum facilities and equipment necessary to ensure a safe and secure environment for the visiting public and in which refuge staff can accomplish refuge purposes, goals, and mandates